

W C H D

Winnebago County Health Department

Serving Our Whole Community

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

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LETTER FROM THE PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATOR

Healthy People In A Healthy Community That Promotes Health Equity

The Winnebago County Health Department seeks to prevent disease, promote health, and enlist the community in efforts to improve the health of all Winnebago County residents.



In January of 2022, cases of the novel coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) were again surging locally and nationally with a newly identified variant named Omicron that was more infectious resulting in a surge in reported illness and hospitalizations for severe illness. Additional doses of COVID-19 vaccine were approved and recommended. In August of 2022, bivalent COVID-19 vaccines to protect against the predominate Omicron variants were authorized. With low uptake of these booster vaccines in Winnebago County, both community and transmission levels remained high for most of the year. Winnebago County Health Department (WCHD) continued its efforts to plan for and mitigate the impacts through vaccination efforts, provision of PAXLOVID treatment, COVID-19 case investigation, and contact tracing focused on cases in congregate settings and adapting its strategies to the everchanging priorities of the pandemic. Throughout the year, WCHD remained in an Incident Command Structure (ICS) to respond to the pandemic and plan for active recovery including redeployment.

By spring, WCHD was able to refocus on core public health initiatives and health equity concerns that were highlighted by the COVID-19 pandemic. WCHD raised awareness of health equity concerns with a focus on the disparity for black maternal health in Winnebago County by partnering with community members to form the Maternal, Infant, and Child Health Team with a goal *Keeping Moms and Babies Alive*.

Spring also brought additional emergent health concerns including mpox (previously known as monkeypox or MPV) and Ebola. Using the existing ICS structure, WCHD organized and coordinated resources in response to these concerns. WCHD found innovative solutions for the administration of the mpox vaccine including adapting existing software to support vaccine registration and training staff on different vaccination techniques. An mpox vaccination site was established at a local venue to help reduce stigma and provide access to the most impacted population. In addition, WCHD planned with its City and County Emergency Services Disaster Agency and local Federally Qualified Health Centers to plan for receipt of potential asylees from southern border states.

In the summer, the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) returned to Winnebago County as planned to conduct a follow-up Health Impact Survey in coordination with WCHD. The survey assessed the potential public health impacts, including mental health, on the community one year after a large fire burned at the Chemtool, Inc. facility in Rockton, Illinois. The initial results of this Health Impact Survey, Part 2 indicated ways in which the fire continues to impact the community and provided additional insight on communication strategies.

Throughout 2022, WCHD collaborated with partners to increase awareness to opioid overdoses and provide increased access to naloxone to prevent deaths from overdose. WCHD also worked toward becoming a more trauma informed community. WCHD and the Illinois Collaboration on Youth (ICOY) identified and prioritized both internal and external steps for WCHD and for the Winnebago County Trauma Informed Community to address trauma in our community. During this process, ICOY surveyed WCHD staff and provided vicarious trauma training for staff that visit clients at home.

The Board of Health supported WCHD's efforts toward addressing our three health priorities (Maternal and Child Health, Mental Health, and Violence Prevention), advancing quality improvement initiatives, and establishing a new website. WCHD staff reconvened and refocused on the three strategic planning goals: Focus on core public health, develop public health systems that support core public health, and advance a culture of quality.

The year provided WCHD with multiple challenges and opportunities. We are grateful for the support and work of community partners throughout the past year.

With leadership from the Board of Health, I and the entire WCHD staff remain committed to addressing health disparities, advancing health equity, responding to emerging public health concerns, and improving the health of Winnebago County.

Your Chief Health Strategist,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra Martell".

Sandra Martell, RN DNP
Public Health Administrator

1. Monitor Health

The Winnebago County Health Department (WCHD) monitors the health status of the community and develops strategies to improve and protect health. In 2022, respiratory illnesses surged with an increase in respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) infection in emergency departments in Winnebago County occurring earlier in fall than usual. While common in children, RSV atypically impacted the adult population. Additionally, Winnebago County reported a significant increase in COVID-19 cases in January 2022 from the Omicron variant. Bivalent Booster doses, that better protected against the new Omicron variants, became available to the public in August. COVID-19 community and transmission level remained high for most of the year as a result of low vaccination levels and the Omicron variant. As COVID-19 case investigation and contact tracing transitioned to a state-wide centralized Surge Center, WCHD prioritized case investigations in congregate settings.

The following emerging diseases were of concern in 2022:

- **Mpox (monkeypox/MPV)**, a rare but potentially serious viral illness started spreading in the U.S. and Illinois. Anyone in close contact with someone with mpox was at risk. The LBTGQIA+ community was impacted most by mpox and five (5) cases were reported in Winnebago County. WCHD administered mpox vaccine to prevent the spread.
- **Ebola virus disease (EVD)** outbreak was confirmed in western Uganda in September. WCHD monitored travelers that had an exposure risk for Ebola for 21 days from their arrival in the US.
- **Hepatitis of unknown origin in children** potentially linked to a strain of adenovirus was identified by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) in children under ten (10) years of age. WCHD issued a Health Alert and asked providers to report suspect cases.
- **Urasian H5 strain of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI)** in wild birds and domestic poultry occurred in multiple states in the US. WCHD conducted routine surveillance for potential exposure of poultry workers to this strain of avian influenza.



2. Diagnose & Investigate

WCHD investigates and responds to public health concerns in the community. In 2022, WCHD responded to 212 concerns regarding food and 1,174 concerns regarding housing or nuisance issues.

WCHD continued to monitor the mosquito population for West Nile virus. Of the eighty (80) mosquito pools tested, four (4) tested positive for WNV. No positive bird or human WNV cases were identified. In addition to monitoring for WNV, WCHD continued prevention efforts that encouraged residents to remove potential breeding grounds for WNV transmitting mosquitoes and collected 2,000 tires from the community through a free tire drop off event.

WCHD began a new initiative to monitor for Lyme Disease in our community through tick drags that collect ticks in the area and test them for disease. Two (2) of the five (5) ticks collected this year qualified for testing. One of the two tested positive for Lyme Disease confirming the presence of Lyme Disease in the tick population in our community.

In 2022, WCHD conducted 109 lead-based paint risk assessments and was able to mitigate lead risks in thirty-three (33) homes as part of the Creating Lead Safe Rockford Program.

As part of Tuberculosis (TB) control and prevention, WCHD conducted onsite TB testings at a work site for multiple individuals identified as close contacts to an active TB case to detect and prevent transmission. WCHD conducted an outbreak investigation of RSV infection in a Long-term Care Facility (LTCF) and issued a Health Alert to increase provider attention to this disease in vulnerable adults.



3. Communicate

Guidance about public health threats including COVID-19, opioids, and mpox was provided using multiple communications strategies. WCHD messaged on respiratory virus prevention, emphasizing the importance of getting COVID-19 vaccines and the flu vaccine. To promote mpox vaccination, WCHD posted on an online social networking and dating site. Based on the initial success, WCHD ran additional mpox vaccination messages on the platform and will explore this and similar platforms for future outreach.

A campaign to increase awareness about opioid overdose prevention was conducted by WCHD in coordination with International Overdose Awareness Day on August 31st. Two local movie theaters showed campaign messages on screen. Residents were encouraged to attend WCHD's naloxone training(s) during the month of August and "Get Their Purple" bracelet. The community was asked to "Turn Up The Purple" August 27 through September 3 by wearing purple, lighting up purple, or decorating with purple. Local facilities changed their outdoor lighting while WCHD staff wore purple and pushed out purple #EndOverdose stickers and Detera Pouches for safe disposal of medications. A news conference was held with WCHD, the City of Rockford Fire Department, the Winnebago County State's Attorney, the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office, and the Winnebago County Coroner's Office to highlight efforts to address the opioid overdose epidemic.

As an upgrade to WCHD's digital media, a new website was launched on October 22, 2022. The new website address, publichealth.wincoil.gov, is a .gov site, giving WCHD additional credibility. The new website features a layout of information from the public's perspective with audience-specific pages including pages for healthcare providers and business partners.



4. Community & Partners

WCHD works with community partners to address complex social and environmental factors that impact health. In 2022, WCHD convened community partners to address maternal and infant morbidity and mortality and racial disparities. This Maternal, Infant, and Child Health Team (MIGHT) launched a monthly podcast series *Keeping Moms and Babies Alive* to bring awareness and action to these health disparities, while linking families to community resources.

The opioid crisis is another complex issue that WCHD works with many partners to address. The Winnebago County Opioid Response Plan was updated to incorporate revisions from the State of Illinois Opioid *Overdose* Action Plan. The Opioid Response Team led by WCHD included workgroups on Justice Involved, Access to Treatment, Rescue, Safer Prescribing and Dispensing, and Reducing Stigma. WCHD continued to provide naloxone to the community through weekly virtual and in-person trainings in community areas with the highest reported rates of overdose fatalities. Additionally, WCHD collaborated with the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office to provide free naloxone for the community through two (2) vending machines located in the Winnebago County Crime and Public Safety Commission and the Winnebago County Justice Center buildings.

WCHD hosted the Chairman's and Mayor's Youth Leadership Council (YLC). Student recruitment efforts resulted in twenty (20) youth participating in the YLC in 2022 representing seven (7) schools.

To address disparities resulting from economic disinvestments in neighborhoods, WCHD participated with the City of Rockford's Neighborhood Improvement Initiative and conducted door-to-door outreach to connect residents to resources.



5. Policies & Plans

WCHD's vision, mission, and goals are outlined in its overall strategic plan. One identified goal is to develop and implement a plan that addresses the three (3) IPLAN (Illinois Plan for Local Assessment of Needs) health priorities:

- Maternal and Child Health
- Mental Health
- Violence Prevention

WCHD's Strategic Plan work groups continued to develop and implement plans to meet the goals of the Strategic Plan.

WCHD's Emergency Response Plan was activated due to COVID-19 and the mpox response. WCHD updated the Ebola response plan and completed an After-Action Report (AAR) for the COVID-19 response. WCHD contracted with the Salvation Army to support Inventory Management of the preparedness supplies as part of the Emergency Operations Plan. As a community partner, the Salvation Army actively engaged throughout the pandemic response in the management and distribution of supplies such as personal protective equipment. WCHD continued to work toward building and sustaining the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) and was awarded a \$25,000 grant from NACCHO (National Association of County and City Health Officials). Winnebago County MRC's work around the mpox response was highlighted in NACCHO's October Issue of MRC InTouch Newsletter that is disseminated nationally.



WCHD policies initiated or updated included a policy on *Standing Order for Administration of Undesignated Glucagon in Schools* and a policy on *Standing Order for Administration of Undesignated Albuterol in Schools*. These two policies allow trained school nurses or other trained school personnel to administer Glucagon or Albuterol (or other quick-relief asthma medication) to students with a care plan on file to prevent deaths associated with diabetes and asthma.

6. Laws & Regulations

Laws, ordinances, and regulations impact the health of the population. WCHD supports laws and ordinances to improve the health of the community. In 2022, WCHD's Tobacco Free Communities Program worked with the Director of Public Health Policy to develop a model Tobacco Retail Licensing Ordinance and a Smoke Free Outdoor Spaces Ordinance. The ordinances are available to local communities that choose to begin licensing their tobacco retailers and addressing smoke free (including vape free) outdoor public spaces.

Changes in laws can impact WCHD's operations. For example, in January of 2022, Illinois law required restaurants that serve a packaged "children's meal" to offer at least one beverage option with the meal that meets certain nutritional standards and contains no more than 130 calories per container. WCHD notified impacted food establishments of the change. Another bill that went into effect in 2022 required farmers who engage in retail sale of potentially hazardous foods prepacked in a licensed or permitted processing facility, obtain a permit from the local health department.

In January 2022, the Access to Public Health Data Act was initiated in the Illinois House of Representatives requiring the Illinois Departments of Public Health, Human Services, and Children and Family Services to make any and all public health data related to residents within the jurisdiction of the local health department available to the health department for the purposes of preventing or controlling disease, injury, or disability at the population level. As a member of the Northern Illinois Public Health Consortium (NIPHC), WCHD continues to advocate legislation that supports data sharing between the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and local health departments.



7. Equitable Access

WCHD advocates for equitable access to services that impact the health of residents and steps in when a gap in services is identified. For example, this year WCHD offered PAXLOVID treatment for COVID-19 and mpox vaccine in addition to other services when other health care partners in Winnebago County were not providing. WCHD also initiated PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis for HIV) with continued follow-up by Crusader Community Health.

WCHD also worked to connect residents to resources. WCHD's Woman, Infants, and Children Supplemental Nutrition Program (WIC) participated in the Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP). Grant funding provided an additional \$30.00 voucher benefit for WIC participants to receive fresh produce and herbs from approved vendors at local farmers markets or roadside stands in Winnebago County. WCHD recruited twelve (12) local farmers to participate in the program and distributed 800 vouchers to active participants. As part of a Dental Sealant Grant, WCHD sent 190 oral health kits containing toothbrushes, toothpaste, floss, and an educational brochure, to WIC participants. WCHD also worked to inform parents of young children about the benefits of having a first dental visit by the child's first birthday and encouraged parents to take steps to prevent tooth decay in their young children.

WCHD actively outreached into the community to connect residents with services provided at the health department. WCHD's Better Birth Outcomes (BBO) Program offers prenatal education and one on one support to expectant mothers by a registered nurse.

WCHD supported community-based organization efforts to provide much needed care and access to health resources. WCHD staff participated in the Illinois State Dental Society Foundation's 2022 Mission of Mercy volunteering in various roles as over 1,000 patients received free dental care.



8. Workforce

As emergency COVID-19 response grants ended, WCHD staffing returned to pre-pandemic levels with an average of 100 staff. WCHD faced staffing challenges in critical public health positions similar to healthcare entities in the region. In response to these challenges, WCHD implemented a revised classification and compensation plan and launched a recruitment initiative. The Classification and Compensation plan addressed retention concerns while the recruitment efforts reached out to potential new employees with a message of *More than just a job!*

Surge staffing was needed to support response efforts to COVID-19 and mpox. Contract agency nurses supported providing COVID-19 treatment at WCHD. The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) was activated to support mpox vaccinations.

WCHD continued quarterly All Staff meetings virtually and returned in person meetings in the second half of the year. Staff were trained on a variety of topics including health equity. WCHD revised and reintroduced new staff orientations. Staff and MRC volunteers were trained on CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation.) Selected staff completed a scholarship program sponsored by the National Network of Public Health Institutes called BEAM (Building expertise in Administration & Management). Through this program, staff participated in learning modules on Problem and Solutions, Budgets, Procurement, Contracts, Contract Monitoring, Assessing Financial Performance (AFP).

The Director of Public Health Policy was accepted to the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Nursing's New to Public Health Residency Program and will evaluate the program for future WCHD leaders.



9. Improve & Innovate

WCHD's commitment to advance a culture of quality includes the development of projects designed to further improve health department processes and foster innovation in public health. WCHD's Quality Improvement (QI) initiatives for 2022/2023 focused on strengthening work procedures, including the digitization of health records and development of a standard post-exposure prophylaxis procedure for rabies.

In WCHD's commitment to improve and innovate, WCHD adopted the new Standards for Reaccreditation issued by the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) in 2022 and is working to ensure that the new standards are being incorporated. To modernize current systems, WCHD worked with the Department of Information Technology to update technology in the large and small conference rooms to facilitate community presentation and support remote meeting participation.

WCHD maximized current technology by utilizing the Qualtrics software system to advance public health processes. Modifications continue to be made to support COVID-19 treatment services and changes to vaccine administration schedules. WCHD also utilized this online platform in response to the opioid crisis to support naloxone training and distribution. Individuals can now register for naloxone training in the system which will send out training confirmations, reminders of upcoming trainings, and post-training surveys. The system also notifies participants if their naloxone is about to expire. A Qualtrics dashboard provides WCHD data on the number of trainings completed and number of naloxone kits distributed. Qualtrics was also used for the one-year follow-up survey to residents impacted by the Chemtool Fire.

Improvements made to the WIC program to support breastfeeding through a peer program have been recognized. Since the peer program began in 2021, breastfeeding exclusivity rates have increased from 6% to 11% and total breastfeeding infant rates have increased from 25% to 37%. In August, WCHD's WIC Program was awarded a Gold Breastfeeding Award of Excellence by the United States Department of Agriculture for an exemplary breastfeeding peer program.



10. Infrastructure

WCHD's public health infrastructure continues to evolve to improve health outcomes in our community. In 2022, partnerships with healthcare and state agencies continued to support response efforts to health concerns. WCHD continued policy calls with healthcare partners to respond to communicable disease concerns including COVID-19, mpox (MPV), Ebola Viral Disease (EVD), and RSV. WCHD continued to coordinate with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and IDPH on environmental issues related to PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) in water and the Chemtool/Beloit Corporation superfund site. In collaboration with IDPH and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (CDC/ATSDR), WCHD resurveyed the public to assess the impact on the community's health one year after the Chemtool Fire. Initial results from Part 2 of this Health Impact Survey indicated that many residents were still experiencing health conditions.

WCHD continued to work on water infrastructure that impacts public health. WCHD worked with Region 1 Planning Council to assess and analyze water systems in Winnebago County. WCHD also worked with the Winnebago County Board Chairman regarding future potable water needs to support the Air Liquide Project that would build a renewable natural gas facility on the existing landfill.

WCHD continued to support emergency response infrastructure. In September, WCHD participated in a City of Rockford training with FEMA (L0930 Integrated Emergency Management course) that included training sessions and a table top and a functional exercise. WCHD participated in various roles including Policy, Healthcare, Environmental Health, and Public Information.

Partners recognized WCHD's efforts. In August, Dr. Martell was awarded the 2022 Friends of Education Award for Illinois Area 2 by the Illinois Association of Regional Superintendents of Schools in recognition of her work and support to keep children learning through the COVID-19 pandemic.



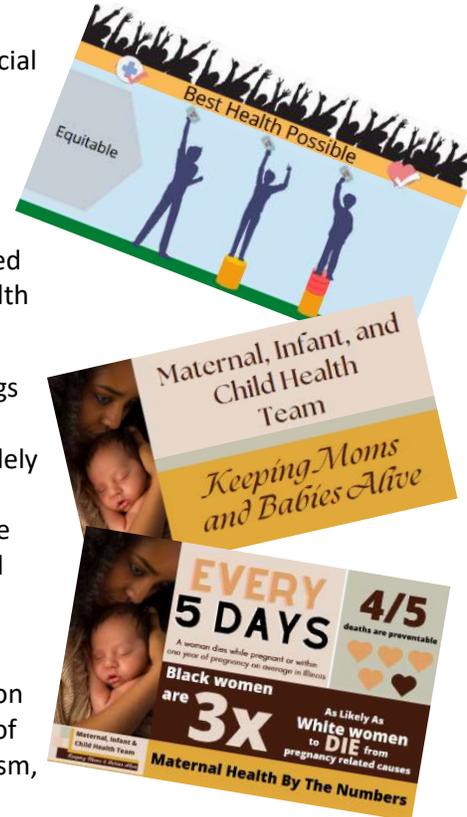
Health Equity

WCHD is committed to closing the health equity gap. With a focus on reducing health disparities through building more inclusive public health programs and improving the social determinants of health, WCHD works to advance the health and resilience of our community and the people who live, work, play and learn here.

In 2022, WCHD utilized National Public Health Week to share messaging with the community to bring awareness to health equity. The following week, WCHD shared information on the health disparities in maternal and infant death rates. WCHD continued to bring awareness to this health disparity as part of the Maternal, Infant, and Child Health Team (MIGHT), toward Keeping Moms and Babies Alive.

WCHD continued to coordinate the Communities of Concern (COC) workgroup that brings together partner agencies, community members, and influencers to address barriers to health equity in marginalized communities. In 2022, the COC expanded from working solely around COVID-19 to including all health equity issues for these communities of concern. The COC discussed fostering health literacy, local programming, messaging, and available resources. The COC selected 3 main sectors to serve the community: People, Homes and Neighborhoods.

WCHD has an internal Health Equity Committee comprised of a diverse group of employees. This committee continually and regularly educates health department staff on equity issues and increases awareness of the burden of health disparities on the health of our community. This year, the committee discussed social justice, individualism and racism, equating prosperity with free market, and the celebration of diversity.



Trauma Informed

WCHD is committed to addressing trauma and its impact on health in our community. In 2022, WCHD received two grants to further our work toward becoming a trauma informed community:

- A NACCHO grant assisted WCHD in building capacity to address the intersection of suicide, overdose, and ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences) in the community. ACEs are the root cause of trauma. WCHD is addressing underlying causes of ACEs, suicide and opioid overdose at the individual and population level.
- A Winnebago County Community Mental Health Board grant is helping WCHD build a Trauma Informed Community and expand the impact of the Trauma Informed Workgroups.

These funding sources allowed WCHD to:

- Work with the Illinois Collaboration on Youth (ICOY) to complete a Capacity Building Assessment Tool for Organizations (CBAT-O) that provided priority action steps at the agency level and for the Winnebago County Trauma Informed Community toward becoming trauma-informed.
- Update the Trauma 101 training and establish a formal train-the-trainer program.
- Educate staff on self-care to address the impact of secondary trauma that can happen when repeatedly exposed to the trauma of others including behavioral, emotional, or physical symptoms of PTSD.
- Hire an internal Care Coordinator/Case Manager and establish a program focused on intervention and case management to improve the mental health and resilience of families. Connection to this Coordinator increased WCHD clients' access to mental health providers and awareness of and education around additional available resources.



Center For Health Protection

DISEASE INVESTIGATION

WCHD responds as necessary to contain and control the spread of disease. The COVID-19 pandemic, mpox, and Ebola increased the demand for disease investigation exceeding WCHD's normal capacity.

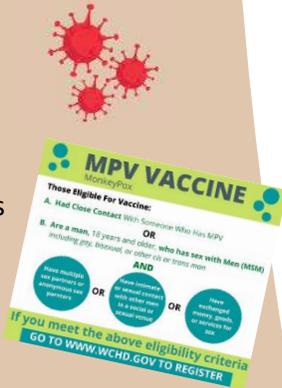
37,148 ↑
Disease Investigations & Follow-up

EMERGING HEALTH ISSUES

In 2022, the novel coronavirus continued to impact the lives of residents in Winnebago County. In addition, mpox was a new global health concern that resulted in a few local infections.

32,372 ↑
COVID-19 Cases

5 ↑
Mpox Cases



VACCINE PREVENTABLE DISEASES

Vaccine preventable diseases often seen in Winnebago County include varicella (Chickenpox), influenza, and pertussis. In 2022, WCHD saw an increase in the number of cases of varicella and influenza ICU admissions. WCHD will continue to work with healthcare partners to improve vaccination.

8 ↑
Varicella Cases

45 ↑
Influenza, ICU Admissions

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES

Sexually transmitted diseases often seen in Winnebago County include chlamydia, syphilis, HIV, and gonorrhea. In 2022, WCHD reported a decrease in gonorrhea infections, but an increase in both syphilis cases and HIV infections.

99 ↑
Syphilis

704 ↓
Gonorrhea

26 ↑
HIV Infections

Center For Health Promotion & Wellness

WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC)

WIC serves low-income Woman, Infants, and Children up to 5 years old by providing supplemental nutritious foods, healthy eating information, breastfeeding support, and healthcare referrals. WIC enrollment increased in 2022 as anticipated and is expected to grow further in 2023.

79% ↑
Caseload Goal Achieved



DRUG OVERDOSE PREVENTION PROGRAM (DOPP)

DOPP works to educate the community on opioid overdoses while providing naloxone kits and training to reverse overdoses. Data is collected on how many trainings and kits are distributed and how many saves are reported to WCHD.

1,974 ↑
Number of Individuals Trained

3,016 ↑
Number of Kits Distributed

44 ↑
Number of Reversals Received

MATERNAL INFANT & EARLY CHILDHOOD HOME VISITING COORDINATED INTAKE (MIECHV)

WCHD serves as the single point of entry for home visiting services for children under 5 in Winnebago County. The MIECHV program collaborates with five evidence-based home visiting agencies and a doula program to connect families with resources and services promoting school readiness and health education. Referrals to the MIECHV program improved in 2022.

285 ↑
Number of Clients Referred by MIECHV Programs

85 ↓
Number of Clients Referred By Non-MIECHV Programs

362 ↑
Number of Clients Screened



Center For Environmental Health Improvement

FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS

WCHD permits and inspects food establishments in Winnebago County including stores selling prepacked food. WCHD investigates all complaints received. For new construction and renovation of food establishments, WCHD reviews the plans and provides guidance on changes needed to meet the food code.

5,055 ↑

Food Establishments Inspections/ Rechecks

14 ↑

Foodborne Illness Complaint Investigations

198 ↑

Non-Foodborne Illness Complaint Investigations



HEALTHY HOME IMPROVEMENTS

WCHD inspects environmental health concerns and helps to mitigate hazards. Addressing lead in homes with children under 6 is a priority in Winnebago County. In 2022, lead based assessments and mitigation increased.

109 ↑

Lead-Based Paint Risk Assessments

33 ↑

Homes Receiving Lead Mitigation



VECTOR CONTROL

WCHD places mosquito traps throughout the County to collect samples of mosquitoes. Pools of mosquitoes are collected from these traps and tested for West Nile virus (WNV). Dead birds found in the County and submitted to WCHD are also tested for WNV.

0 ↓

WNV-Positive Birds

4 ↑

WNV-Positive Mosquito Pools



Center For Personal Health Services

BETTER BIRTH OUTCOMES

WCHD helps women have a healthy pregnancy and a healthy baby through monthly home visits with a registered nurse and linkage to medical care and social services.

29 ↑

Average Monthly Caseload



TUBERCULOSIS (TB) PREVENTION & CARE

WCHD assists clients with active and latent TB in diagnostic work-up, medications, and care management. WCHD works with these clients to help prevent the spread of the disease and cure TB.

252 ↑

Clients Managed

767 ↑

Direct Observed Therapy Nurse Home Visits

CLINICAL SERVICES

WCHD provides limited clinical services for immunizations, women's health screenings, pregnancy testing, and STD/STI screenings.

2,456 ↓

Total Visit (Clinician & Nurse Visits)



VITAL STATISTICS

WCHD is responsible for recording the number of registered births and deaths in the County each year. WCHD distributes copies of birth and death certificates by request.

4,221 ↑

Registered Births

3,782 ↓

Registered Deaths

38,081 ↑

Total Number of Certificates Issued

Center For Public Health Emergency Preparedness

VACCINATIONS

WCHD responds as necessary to contain and control the spread of disease including through the administration of vaccines at WCHD community vaccinations sites. In 2022, WCHD provided community vaccinations for COVID-19, mpox, and flu.

2,501 ↓
COVID-19
Vaccines

492 ↓
Influenza
Vaccines

193 ↑
Mpox
Vaccines

PAXLOVID TREATMENT FOR COVID-19

WCHD offered residents Paxlovid treatment for COVID-19 at the health department. Residents registered online to get timely access to treatment to help prevent severe COVID-19 illness.

90 ↑
Paxlovid
Administered
At WCHD

MRC VOLUNTEERS

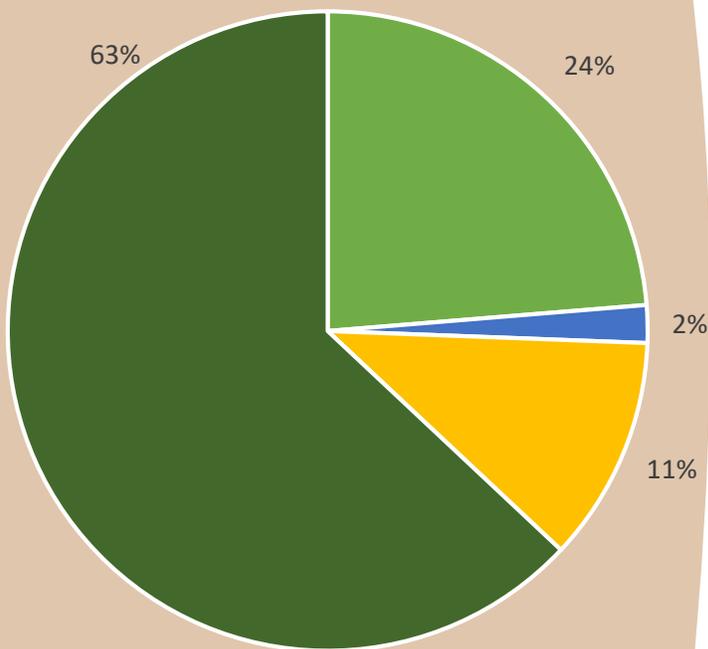
WCHD recruits and trains community members (MRC volunteers) to assist WCHD in responding to emergent health concerns. In 2022, there were less MRC volunteers than the previous year, as expected with the change in the COVID-19 response. However, the contributions of the MRC volunteers continued to be significant.



337 ↓
Total Hours
Volunteered

\$13,407 ↓
Total Cost
Savings

Budget



\$11,840,223

Total Budget

100

Average WCHD Staff

283,119

Community Residents

Funding Source	
■	Taxes
■	Medicaid/ Medicare
■	Fees
■	Federal/State & Local Grants

Funding Supports WCHD Centers and Programs

WCHD is organized into five Centers supported by Administration & Support Services. The Centers have multiple programs, many of which are funded through grants. Support services include: Strategic Initiatives, Data and Quality, Communications, Policy, and Finance. During 2022, WCHD adapted services to respond to multiple emergent public health concerns including COVID-19, mpox, Ebola, and avian influenza, while also working on core public health initiatives.

Winnebago County 2022 Board of Health

PRESIDENT

Robert McCreath



BOARD MEMBERS

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John E. Halversen, DDS

David R. Helland, DVM

Luci Hoover

Patricia Lewis, RN, PhD

Jennifer Muraski

James A. Powers, LCSW

Winnebago County Health Department Leadership

PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATOR

Sandra Martell, RN, DNP



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James Keeler

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Patrick Ngum, MPH

Rebecca Lyons, MPH

Tiffany Levine MSN, RN

Todd Kisner, MPH

Todd Marshall, BS, LEHP

Katherine O'Toole, MPH, CPH

FULL DATA REPORT

Type of Data	2022 Data	2021 Data
All Data is Preliminary and Subject To Change.* Indicates Updated Data from 2021		
VACCINE PREVENTABLE DISEASES (REPORTING TIMEFRAME)		
Chickenpox (Varicella) (24h)	8	3
Haemophilus influenzae, invasive (24h)	5	2
Hepatitis A (24h)	6	2
Hepatitis B-Chronic (7d)	29	57
Influenza deaths in < 18 yrs old (7d)	1	0
Influenza A, variant (immediate)	0	0
Influenza, ICU admissions (24h)	45	*3
Measles (rubeola) (24h)	0	0
Mumps (24h)	1	*1
Pertussis (whooping cough) (24h)	2	1
SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS		
AIDS	0	1
Chlamydia (7d)	1,832	*1,997
Gonorrhea (7d)	704	*914
HIV infection (7d)	26	11
Syphilis (7d)	99	56
OTHER COMMUNICABLE DISEASES		
Anaplasmosis (7d)	0	1
Botulism, infant, wound, other (24h)	1	0
Campylobacteriosis	29	47
Coronavirus Novel 2019 (immediate)	32,372	*23,715
Cryptosporidiosis (7d)	4	10
Cyclosporiasis (7d)	1	5
Ehrlichia chaffeensis	1	0
Enteric E. coli infections (STEC,O157:H7) (24h)	17	11
Hepatitis C-Acute (7d)	3	3
Hepatitis C-Perinatal	1	1
Hepatitis C-Chronic (7d)	92	*136
Histoplasmosis (7d)	5	2
Legionellosis (7d)	13	*18
Listeriosis (7d)	1	2
Lyme disease (7d)	33	23
Malaria (7d)	1	2
Mpox (monkeypox, MPV)	5	0
Rabies, potential human exposure (24h)	38	*50
Salmonellosis, other than typhoid (7d)	43	55
Shigellosis (7d)	16	4
Spotted fever rickettsioses (7d)	2	0
Streptococcal infections, Group A, invasive including STSS and necrotizing fasciitis (24h)	28	4

Type of Data	2022 Data	2021 Data
Toxic shock syndrome due to S. aureus (7d)	2	0
Tuberculosis (7d)	8	*3
Vibriosis (non cholera) (7d)	1	2
West Nile virus (7d)	0	0
SERVICES		
Communicable Diseases (Investigation & Follow-up)	37,148	31,938
Ryan White (Medical Case Management)	615	580
HIV Counseling & Testing	549	1,021
PrEP Prescribed at WCHD	12	0
Center For Health Promotion and Wellness		
WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC)		
Percent Caseload Goal Achieved	79%	70%
Percent of WIC Infants Exclusively Breastfeeding	7.3%	7%
Percent of WIC Infants Partially Breastfeeding	24.4%	23%
Percent of WIC Infants Breastfeeding (Total)	31.8%	30%
MIECHV (MATERNAL INFANT AND EARLY CHILDHOOD HOME VISITING COORDINATED INTAKE)		
Number of Clients Screened with Coordinated Intake Assessment Tool	362	341
Number of Clients Referred from MIECHV Agencies	285	160
Number of Clients Referred from Non-MIECHV Home Visiting Agencies	85	191
DRUG OVERDOSE PREVENTION		
Number of People Trained on Naloxone	1,974	1,619
Number of Naloxone Kits Distributed	3,016	1,739
Reversal Forms Received	44	23
TOBACCO FREE COMMUNITIES		
Smoke Free Illinois Compliance Checks	198	75
Citations Issued for Violations	0	0
Center For Environmental Health Improvement		
PRIVATE WATER WELLS		
New Well Permits	46	33
Repaired Well Permits	7	26
Sealed Well Permits	61	71
Well Permit Inspections	117	99
Well Complaint Inspection	25	41
Non-Community Water Supply Inspections	86	89
PRIVATE SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS		
Soil Boring Evaluations	61	81
New Septic System Permits	14	17
Repaired Septic System Permits	49	118
Septic System Installation Inspections	73	129
Septic Complaint Inspection	53	60
WELL/SEPTIC SYSTEM MORTGAGE EVALUATIONS		
Loan Evaluations Ordered	231	273
Site Verifications Ordered	298	341
Loan Evaluation Inspections	286	334
Site Verification Inspections	268	335
FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENT / RETAIL FOOD STORES		
Food Establishments Inspections/Rechecks	5,055	4,950
Plan Reviews	72	79
Temporary Food Service Events	679	619
IDPH Summer Food Program Inspections	64	63

Type of Data	2022 Data	2021 Data
Foodborne Illness Complaint Investigations	14	13
Non-Foodborne Illness Complaint Investigation	198	168
LEAD PROGRAM		
Lead-Based Paint Risk Assessments	109	90
Recheck/Final Clearance Inspections	57	40
Complaint Inspections	1	2
Contractor Compliance Inspections	73	67
Lead Home Visits / Case Management Visits	155	102
Homes Receiving Lead Mitigation / Abatement	33	31
INDOOR AIR QUALITY		
Radon Screening Requests	5	21
Radon Screening Average (pCi/L)	4.2	5.0
Radon Test Kit Requests	28	29
Radon Test Kits Average (pCi/L)	2.2	4.0
NEIGHBORHOOD CODE ENFORCEMENT		
Housing Complaints	877	793
Housing Inspections/Rechecks	3,221	5,093
Nuisance Complaints	297	*332
Nuisance Inspections/Rechecks	1,587	2,841
Survey Inspections	93	382
Received Complaints	1,500	1,500
Re-Check On Complaints	3,867	689
OTHER PUBLIC FACILITY INSPECTIONS		
Pool and Spa Inspections	136	84
Hotel/Motel Inspections	37	48
Tanning Facility Inspections	15	19
Body Art Facility Inspections	11	16
VECTOR CONTROL		
Mosquito Trap Checks/Surveys	199	220
Mosquito Pools Tested	80	43
WNV-Positive Mosquito Pools	4	0
Dead Bird Reports from the Community	53	31
Dead Birds Tested	4	5
WNV-Positive Birds	0	2
Larvicide Treatments Performed	1	1
Ticks Collected	5	N/A
Ticks Tested	2	N/A
Ticks Positive for Lyme Disease	1	N/A
Center for Personal Health Services		
BETTER BIRTH OUTCOMES		
Average Monthly Caseload	29	17
APORS (ADVERSE PREGNANCY REPORTING SYSTEM) HIGH RISK INFANT FOLLOW-UP		
Average Monthly Caseload	74	104
HEALTHWORKS (MEDICAL CASE MANAGEMENT FOR FOSTER CARE)		
Average Monthly Caseload (Winnebago County)	228	275
Average Monthly Caseload For Region Outside of Winnebago County	262	242
CLINICAL SERVICES		
Clinic Visits	783	783
Nurse Visits	2,419	2,041
Total Visits	2,456	2,824

Type of Data	2022 Data	2021 Data
TUBERCULOSIS PREVENTION AND CARE		
Clients Managed	252	221
Direct Observed Therapy Nurse Home Visits	767	359
REFUGEE SCREENING AND CASE MANAGEMENT		
Number of Refugees Arriving	157	191
FAMILY PLANNING		
Number of Clients Seen	1250	1007
New Clients	654	583
Continuing Clients	619	424
Pregnancy Test	220	202
ILLINOIS BREAST AND CERVICAL CANCER PROGRAM		
Clinical Breast Exam	349	386
Mammograms	226	16
Pap Smears	74	152
VITAL STATISTICS		
Registered Births	4,221	*4,179
Registered Deaths	3,782	*3,848
Number of Birth Certificates Issued	9,504	*8,378
Number of Death Certificates Issued	28,577	*25,756
Total Number of Certificates Issued	38,081	*34,134
Center for Public Health Emergency Preparedness		
Emerging Health Concerns		
COVID-19 Vaccine Administered at WCHD Community Vaccination Sites	2,501	*117,000+
Influenza Vaccine Administered at WCHD Community Vaccination Sites	492	*1,287
Mpox Vaccine Administered at WCHD Community Vaccination Sites	193	N/A
Paxlovid (Treatment for COVID-19) Administered at WCHD	90	N/A
MRC Volunteers		
Total Number of Volunteers	26	198
Total Hours Volunteered	337	7,465
Estimated Cost Savings	13,407.16	276,395.83

CONTACT US

MAIN PHONE AND WEBSITE:

815-720-4000

PublicHealth.wincoil.gov

LOCATION:

555 North Court Street

Rockford, IL 61103

SOCIAL MEDIA:



@WinnebagoCountyHealth



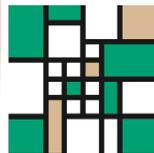
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W C H D

Winnebago County Health Department

Serving Our Whole Community